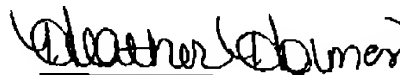


PATENT**F0662****CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent via facsimile on the date shown below to: 703-872-9310, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date:

8/18/03



Heather Holmes

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Bharath Rangarajan, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/845,454

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

Examiner: Binh X. Tran

Art Unit: 1765

OFFICIAL

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ACTIVE CONTROL OF ETCH PROCESS

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TC 1700

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 8, 2003

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated July 16, 2003, applicants' representative is re-submitting a Reply to the Office Action dated April 8, 200 that is believed to be in compliance with either the voluntary practice guidelines or current 37 CFR 1.121.

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks and amendments.